DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 355 469 CS 011 206

AUTHOR Raines, Shirley C.; Canady, Robert J.
TITLE Story Stretchers for the Primary Grades: Activities To Expand Children's Favorite Books.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-87659-157-8
PUB DATE 92
NOTE 257p.; For another title in this series, see ED 333 347.
AVAILABLE FROM Gryphon House, Inc., 3706 Otis St., Mt. Rainier, MD 20712 ($14.95 plus $2.50 postage/handling).
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Guides - Classroom Use - Teaching Guides (For Teacher) (052)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS *Books; Childhood Interests; *Childrens Literature; *Class Activities; Elementary School Students; Primary Education; *Reading Materials; *Thematic Approach; *Whole Language Approach
IDENTIFIERS *Trade Books

ABSTRACT

This book is the third in a series of books for a literature-inspired curriculum for grades 1-3 organized around thematic units. The book's "story stretchers" are a means to extend children's enthusiasm for stories and to better connect children's books and teaching ideas with other areas of the curriculum. The book contains 18 units or themes with 5 focus books per unit. Each focus book has read-aloud suggestions for the book and five story stretchers per book. Thus, there are 90 read-aloud suggestions and 450 story stretchers for 90 different children's books. For each of the book's 18 themes, the books selected are "stretched" into different centers, activities and areas of the curriculum, including art, creative dramatics, games, classroom library, mathematics, music and movement, science and nature, special projects, special events and the writing center. The units, or themes, are as follows: (1) I am Me, I am Special, Look What I Can Do!; (2) Families; (3) Friends; (4) Feelings; (5) Celebrations; (6) I Care about My World, the Environment; (7) Weather; (8) Machines and Things; (9) Animal Life; (10) Life in the Sea, Real and Imagined; (11) Pets, Dogs, and Cats; (12) Another Time and Place; (13) Native American Legends and Folktales from Other Countries; (14) Mysteries, Secrets and Adventures; (15) Bears in Tall Tales, Funny Tales, Stories and Poems; (16) Fun with Words; (17) Poems, Chants, Rhythms and Rhymes; and (18) Tall and Funny, Funny Tales. (SR)

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